



**“SCOOP”**

## **SPECIAL EDITION**

### **ARKANSAS FARM SERVICE AGENCY - - STATE OFFICE**

**October 2008**

#### **NEW POLICY FOR 10.0 OR LESS BASE ACRE FARMS**

On Monday, October 13, 2008, the President signed H.R. 6849 which contains legislation that now allows payments to Direct and Counter-Cyclical (DCP) farms with 10.0 base acres or less of covered commodities and peanuts that have an eligible DCP contract executed by November 26, 2008. Previously, payments could only be issued on 10.0 base acres or less of covered commodities and peanuts for producers whose farm was wholly owned by a socially disadvantaged or limited resource farmer or rancher, and the contract had to be executed by September 30, 2008. Producers on 10.0 base acres or less farms, who did not previously enroll, should immediately contact their local FSA office to ensure the farm is enrolled with all required signatures by November 26, 2008.

#### **2007 UPCN FINAL COUNTER-CYCLICAL (CC) PAYMENTS**

Producers with UPCN bases are currently being issued a final 2007 Counter-Cyclical payment. UPCN is due a final payment because the effective price is below the target price. The effective price equals the direct payment rate, plus the higher of the national average loan rate or the national average price received by producers. The final payment rate is the target price minus the effective price. The following table illustrates the calculation for UPCN.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Peanuts Dollars Per Pound</b>
<b>Target Price</b>	0.7240
National Average Loan Rate	0.5200
National Average Farm Price	0.5930
Higher of Loan Rate or Farm Price	0.5930
Direct Payment Rate	0.0667
<b>Effective Price</b>	0.6597
<b>Final CC Payment Rate (Target Price Minus Effective Price)</b>	0.0643
<b>First Partial Payment Rate</b>	0.0309
<b>Final CC Payment Rate Less First Partial Payments</b>	0.0334

### **2008 FINAL DIRECT PAYMENTS- CURRENTLY BEING ISSUED**

County offices are currently issuing 2008 final direct payments to producers that have all required documentation and an approved 2008 Direct and Counter and Counter-Cyclical Contract on file in the county office. Producer who have not received their payments in the next few days may inquire at the county office for which the payments are to be issued to ensure all applicable program documentation are on file.

### **LIMITED COUNTY OFFICE STAFFING OCTOBER 27, 2008 – OCTOBER 30, 2008**

October 27, 2008 through October 30, 2008, county executive directors and program technicians who work with farm programs from all counties in the State will be attending State Training to learn more about the 2008 Farm Bill. This will enable them upon return to their county to provide an overview of the 2009 and future farm programs.

Offices will remain open with limited services available. One of the following individuals will be in the office:

- Farm loan staff
- Temporary employee
- County committee member
- Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Rural Development (RD)

Producers need to plan accordingly to ensure business is conducted before or after these dates. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

### **2005-2007 CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CDP)**

Producers are reminded that FSA County Offices are accepting applications for *quality and quantity* losses for the 2005-2007 CDP Program. Interested producers should apply ASAP in their local FSA office. A deadline has not been announced but is expected in the near future.

### **WAIVER OF LATE-FILE ACREAGE REPORTING FEES**

Producers who have Non-insured Disaster Assistance (NAP) policies for the 2009 crops of aquaculture, Christmas trees, ginseng root, ornamental nursery, turf grass sod, oats, or wheat will not be charged a late-filed acreage reporting fee provided the acreage is certified on form FSA-578 in the applicable County Office by December 1, 2008. The December 1, 2008, extension is being granted since the NAP sales closing date was extended to December 1, 2008 as well.

**2009 NON-INSURED DISASTER ASSISTANCE (NAP)  
SALES CLOSING DATE APPROACHES**

**December 1, 2008, – Apples, Peaches, Grapes, Aquaculture, Christmas Trees, Ginseng Root, Ornamental Nursery, Turf Grass Sod, Oats, Wheat, Barley, Rye, Apples, Asparagus, Blueberries, Caneberries, Figs, Grapes, Peaches, Pears, Honey, Alfalfa, Bahia, Bermuda Coastal, Bermuda Common, Bermuda Hybrid, Bluestem Old World, Fescue Red, Fescue Tall, Lovegrass, Mixed Forage, Native Interseeded, Orchard Grass, Small Grain/Interseeded, and Sudangrass** – December 1, 2008, is **NAP Application Sales Closing Date** – Either multi-peril Federal Crop Insurance or Non-Insured Disaster Assistance (NAP) coverage is required on all crops in order to be eligible for benefits for the *Supplemental Revenue Assistance (SURE) Program, Tree Assistance Program (TAP), and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (EALHF)*. NAP is required on grazing losses to be eligible for the *Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)*. The coverage is required on all crops grown in all counties. If RMA insurance is available producers must timely purchase RMA coverage, if not available then the producer must purchase NAP Coverage.

A full article can be found in the July Special Edition SCOOP found at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/stateoffapp?mystate=ar&area=home&subject=nele&topic=landing>.

**FSA DISASTER PROGRAMS  
REQUIRE FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE COVERAGE  
AND DEADLINES APPROACH**

With the enactments of the Food Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Act), Pub L. 110-246, contains NEW emergency disaster programs for which producers will be required to purchase multi-peril Federal Crop Insurance on all crops grown if available before the crops' sales closing date. ***The deadline to obtain Federal Crop Insurance Coverage is quickly approaching on some crops, and producers need to report immediately to their agent of choice to obtain coverage.***

More information on the new disaster programs and insurance requirements can be found in the July Special Edition SCOOP

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/stateoffapp?mystate=ar&area=home&subject=nele&topic=landing>.

The U.S. Dept of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the bases of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14<sup>th</sup> and Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-94101 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Dotson Collins, State Executive Director  
Tony Franco, Chief Price Support/Conservation  
Dianna Shook, Administrative Officer  
Sharon Baker, Chief Prod Adj/Compliance

James Culpepper, Chief Farm Loans  
Telephone (501) 301-3000  
Website: [www.fsa.usda.gov/ar](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/ar)